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PRESERVATION OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS,

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

BIJAPUR.

26th May 1881.

(ILLUSTRATED BY TWO PLANS AND SIX SKETCHES.)

PRELIMINARY REPORT BY

CAPTAIN H. H. COLE, R.E.,

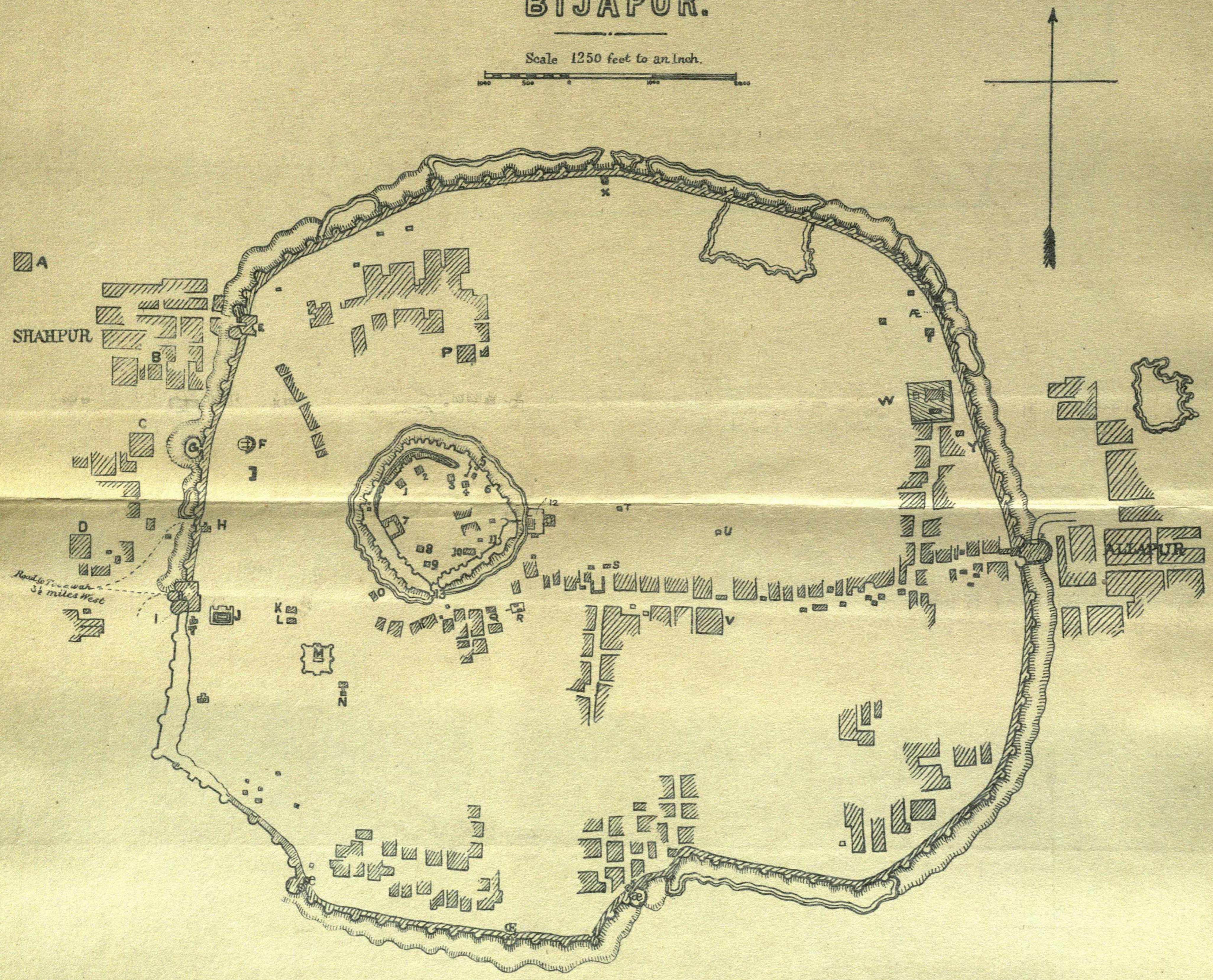
CURATOR OF ANCIENT MONUMENTS IN INDIA.

SIMLA:

GOVERNMENT CENTRAL BRANCH PRESS.

1881.

SKETCH
of the
FORT AND CITADEL
OF
BIJAPUR.



REFERENCE TO FORT

A. Amín Sahib's Mausoleum
B. Shamshabi Asha's Mausoleum
C. An open place of worship
D. Mausoleum of Ibráhím Pádsháh
E. Sháhpúr Gate
F. Uprí Búkj
G. The Great Gun "Malik-i-Maidán"
H. Pudtea Gate.
I. Mecca Gate.
J. Táj Báorí
K. Mausoleum of Abdúl Razzák
L. Mausoleum of Mahmúd Yaikalar Khawas Khan
M. Mausoleum of Begam Sáhib
N. Kishwar Khan's Mosque
O. Múlkí Mosque
P. Ali Adil Shah's Mausoleum
Q. The Mint
R. Mehtarí Mosque.
S. Nawab Mastafá Khan's Mosque
T. Ya'kútí Dowlia's Mosque
U. Khawas Khan's Mosque
V. Jumma Masjid
W. Sultán Mahmud's Tomb.
X. Bahmaní Gate.

FORT (CONTD.)

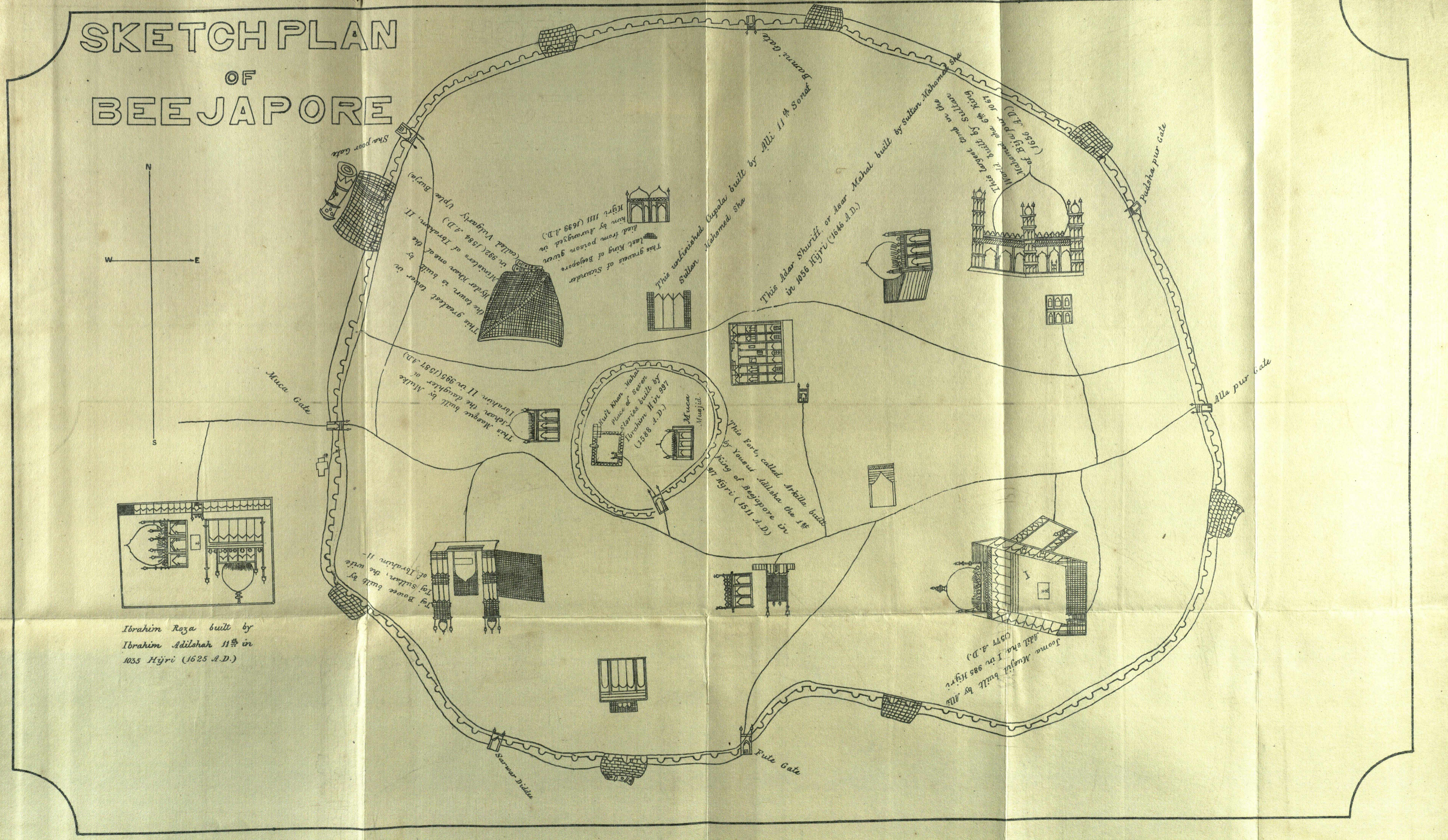
Padshapúr Gate ---------- Y
Allápur Gate ---------- Z
Alí Búrj ---------- Æ
Fatéh Darwázá ---------- ꝶ
Tandah Kassab ---------- Œ
Servada Tiddi ---------- ꝏ

CITADEL

Gagan Máhal ---------- 1
Suneri Máhal ---------- 2
Anand Máhal ---------- 3
Adalat-ka-Mahal ---------- 4
Alamgír Padshah's Mosque ---------- 5
Pani Mahal ---------- 6
Sath Manzalí ---------- 7
Chíní Mahal or Granary ---------- 8
Hindú Temple ---------- 9
Mecca Mosque ---------- 10
Chinchtiddi Mosque ---------- 11
Ashar Mahal ---------- 12
Citadel Gate ---------- 13

NOTE

The circumference of the Fort inside is 6 miles 2 furlongs
The " " Citadel about 1 mile 1½ "


SKETCH PLAN
OF
BEEJAPORE
N
W
E
S
Sha poor Gate
Bamni Gate
Padsha pur Gate
Alla pur Gate
Muca Gate
Futa Gate
This unfinished Cupola built by Alli 11th Son of Sultan Mahomed Sha
This Adar Shuriff or Asar Mahal built by Sultan Mahomed Sha in 1056 Hijri (1646 A.D.)
Muca Musjid
This Fort, called Arkilla built by Yousuf Adilsha the 1st King of Beejapore in ... Hijri (1511 A.D.)
Ibrahim Roza built by Ibrahim Adilshah 11th in 1035 Hijri (1625 A.D.)

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF BIJAPUR AND PRESENT CONDITION OF ITS BUILDINGS, TOGETHER WITH SOME RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THEIR PRESERVATION, AND REPORT ON THE PROJECT FOR MAKING THE CITY THE HEAD-QUARTERS OF THE KALADGI DISTRICT.

Journey to Bijapur.

THE journey to Bijapur from the Great Indian Peninsula Railway at Sholapur is neither easy nor comfortable. The road is but a made track, and there are no bridges over the Bhima and Sina rivers. A two-wheeled cart or "bandy" is under favourable arrangements drawn by trotting bullocks, and these go at a maximum rate of 4 miles an hour; but allowing for delays in changing at the various stages, for accidents, and for the occasional excursion of a wilful pair of animals, cart and all, into the middle of a field, the journey of 61 miles is accomplished in 20 hours. Fortunately, for the future of Bijapur, and for the comfort of those who have to go there, the railway from Sholapur is, I understand, now sanctioned, and the embankments were completed as a relief work during the famine of 1876-77.

Bijapur City.

2. The name "Bijapur" is, said to be derived from "Vijyapur" or "City of Victory," which was a Hindu centre of some size and importance when the Muhammadan invasions of the Dekhan brought a band of fanatics, who attacked the Brahmins of the City College (the remains of which may be still seen in the citadel), and established themselves in it. This early occupation of the city had, as far as it is known, no immediate effect on the place, nor did it produce changes. It was not until Yusuf Adil Khan in A.D. 1489 assumed independence that the site of the old Hindu town was selected for the new citadel and the surrounding fortifications were built. The former is over a mile in circumference, and has a stone parapet and ditch. The latter consist of massive masonry walls and bastions, the circuit being about 6¼ miles.

The plan of Bijapur, attached to this report, is taken from that published in Taylor and Fergusson's volume, and shows the position of the most important monumental buildings. The second plan is annexed more as a curiosity than anything else. It was copied from an old

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map by a native of Bijapur, who accompanied me round the city, and it gives some idea of the character of the existing edifices and where they are, in and outside the city walls. The sketches are from Colonel Biggs' photographs; and I am indebted to Sir Charles Macgregor, Quartermaster General, and Captain Bell for the permission given for the reproduction of the plates at the Office of the Intelligence Branch, Army Head Quarters.

For some distance all round, the country consists of undulating downs, covered with a stony soil. In the hollows between these downs are lands of a richer quality, and with a plentiful water-supply. Near Bijapur itself the surrounding plain, which is the actual watershed of the general Dekhan plateau, is probably not less than 2,000 feet above the sea. The ground is arid and stony, and there is nothing to meet the eye except occasional clumps of trees about the villages. Although the immediate vicinity is not well cultivated or productive, the rivers Bhima and Krishna enrich the lands on their banks, and produce long tracts which in former days filled the granaries of Bijapur.

Publications about Bijapur.

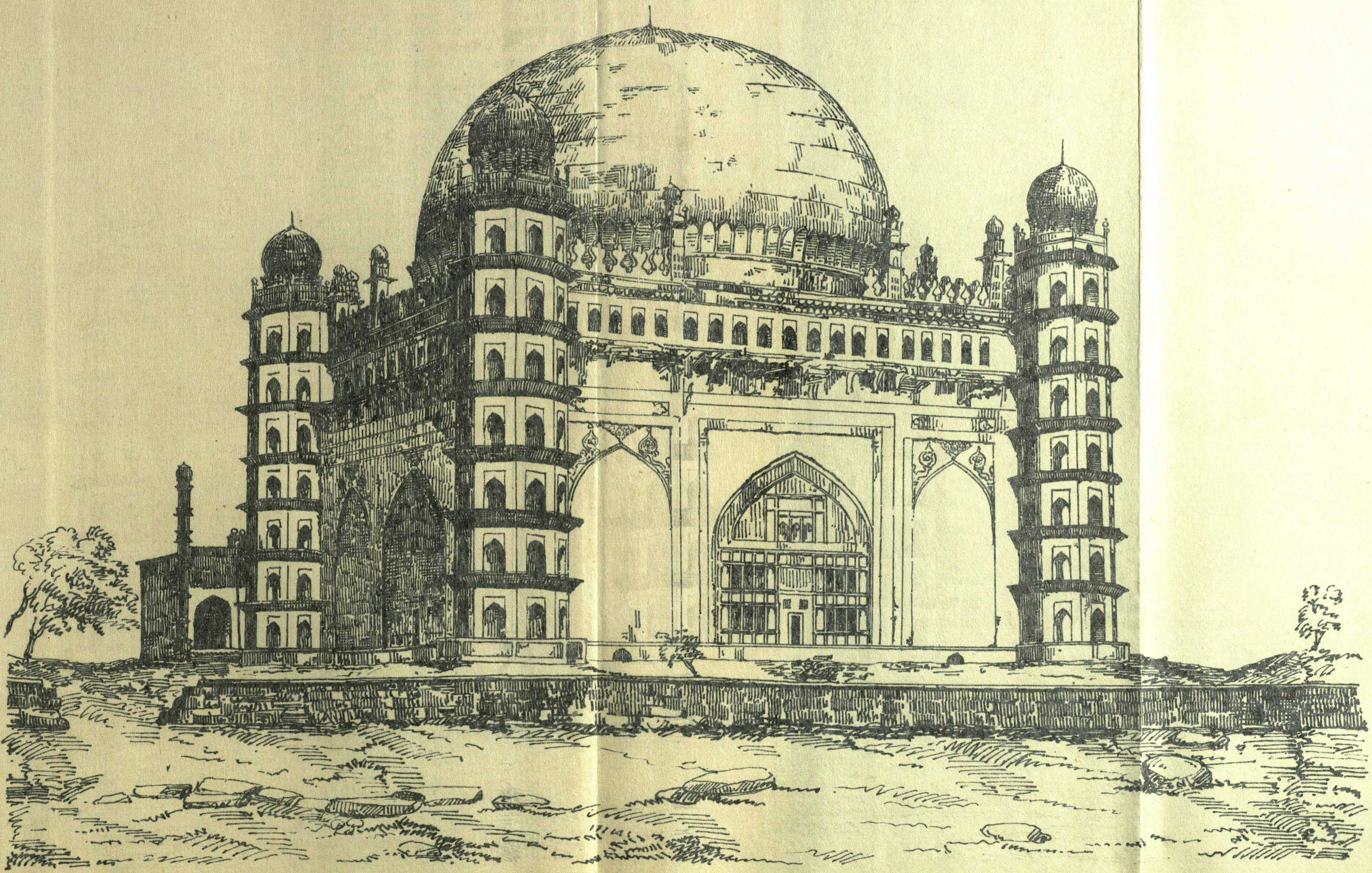
3. The buildings at Bijapur form the subject of a large volume published by John Murray in 1866 under the editorship of Mr. T. C. Hope, C.S.;* and this, together with what Mr. James Fergusson has since written on the subject in his *History of Indian and Eastern Architecture,* make this famous capital unusually fortunate in the mode and extent in which it has been illustrated and described. The photographs and photographed drawings in the former volume are, however, not all that can be desired. The photographs are not printed by any permanent process, and have faded: the same may be said of the photographed drawings; but, in addition to this, the drawings do not come out well. They are so much reduced as in many cases to be too indistinct in detail, and the absence of all colouring robs many of the illustrations of painted decoration of more than half their value. If these drawings by Captain Hart and Mr. Cumming are available, they should be reproduced in the best possible manner for publication in single plates, and moderately priced, and would then be of great value from an architectural and artistic point of view.

Bijapur architecture.

4. Yusuf Khan, to whom the dynasty of the Adil Shahis owes its foundation,

* Architecture at Bijapur, an ancient Muhammadan capital in the Bombay Presidency, photographed from drawings by Captain P. D. Hart, R.E., A. Cumming, C.E., and Native draftsmen, and on the spot by Colonel Biggs, late of the Royal Artillery, and the late Major Loch, Bombay Army.

SKETCH OF THE TOMB OF SULTAN MAHMUD ADIL SHAH: DATE 1626–1660 A.D.



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was of Turkish descent, being a younger son of Amurath, Sultan of Constantinople, who died in A.D. 1451.

Forced to escape from his home at his father's death, he eventually found himself in India; was purchased for the body-guard at Beder; and subsequently raised himself to independence at Bijapur.

Besides the erection of the citadel and surrounding city walls, the Adil Shahis began their architectural career by utilising the Hindu remains of a temple for the construction of a mosque.

This system was, however, abandoned, and Ali Adil Shah in A.D. 1557 established a new building epoch.

Imbued, probably, with a taste for the Byzantine architecture of Constantinople, he avoided the use of Hindu forms or Hindu details, and developed a style peculiarly local. Unlike the Indian Saracenic architecture of Jaunpur and Ahmedabad, which was adapted and borrowed from the styles of the Hindus, the Bijapur architects introduced a domical style of great grandeur and boldness, more in resemblance to the Pathan architecture which developed in Northern India. The grandeur of effect which the larger Bijapur buildings possess is not easily realised, except on the spot. Photographs and drawings explain the construction and form of the great dome which covers the tomb of Muhammad; but it is in its presence alone that one becomes sensible of the simple grandeur of that wonderful pile. Major Mant, R.E., has left on record his impression that the building is of no architectural interest: but I feel convinced that when he goes to Bijapur and stands before it, he will reverse his opinion.

A complete chapter in the history of Eastern art may be read inside the gigantic walls of the city, and a work of great national importance and of lasting credit to the British Government will be accomplished as soon as the buildings are systematically cared for and kept from falling into ruin and oblivion.

Tomb of Sultan Mahmud Adil Shah, otherwise called the Gol Gumbaz.

(Marked W on the plan.)

Sultan Mahmud's Tomb.

5. The mausoleum of Mahmud Adil Shah is one of the most remarkable tombs in India, and its dome is one of the largest masonry structures in the world (see sketch). The building was erected by Mahmud (A.D. 1626 to 1660), but was never

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quite completed. Besides its remarkable size, its method of construction claims the study and attention of both engineers and architects. The thrust of the enormous domical mass is counteracted by the compression given to the ring of the masonry from which the arching starts. This compression is produced by the weight of an enormous cornice formed out of pendentives acting inwards. On the platform of these pendentives the dome commences with a diameter of 123 feet, thus leaving a space of 13 feet width all round the interior, which forms a very perfect whispering gallery.

The exterior diameter of the dome is 142 feet 8 inches, and the exterior height from ground 198 feet.

The illustrations in Taylor and Fergusson's Bijapur are three wood-cuts of plans, one photographic view, and seven photographic plates of drawings.

Repairs to this tomb were executed when Sir Bartle Frere was Resident at Sattara, and have been lately carried on afresh by Messrs. R. B. Joyner and C. Reinhold, Executive Engineers, successively in charge of the Kaladgi Division.

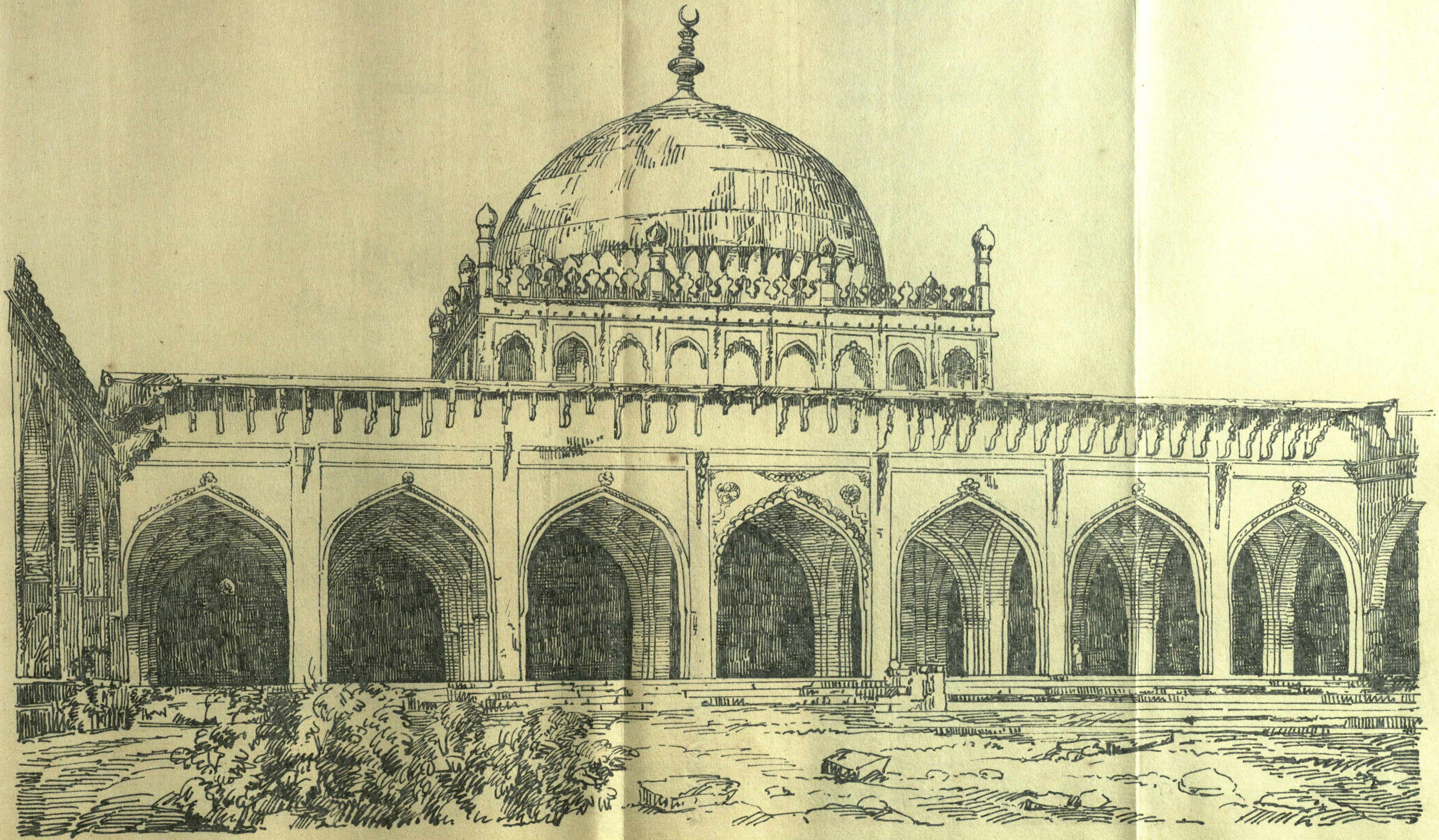
Repairs which were urgently needed to the dome some short time ago have, through the energy particularly of Mr. Joyner, placed the building in security.

Much more remains to complete what has been begun. The rows of large brackets which form the noble cornice over 80 feet high on each of the four exterior sides of the building are much mutilated and fallen, and no amount of money expended on this grand building will be of any availing credit to the British Government until the fallen brackets are replaced. The replacing them at the height of 80 feet is an arduous but not insuperable task. I would recommend that a thoroughly strong and secure scaffold be constructed for one of the four sides of the building, and so made as to be available for the other three sides.

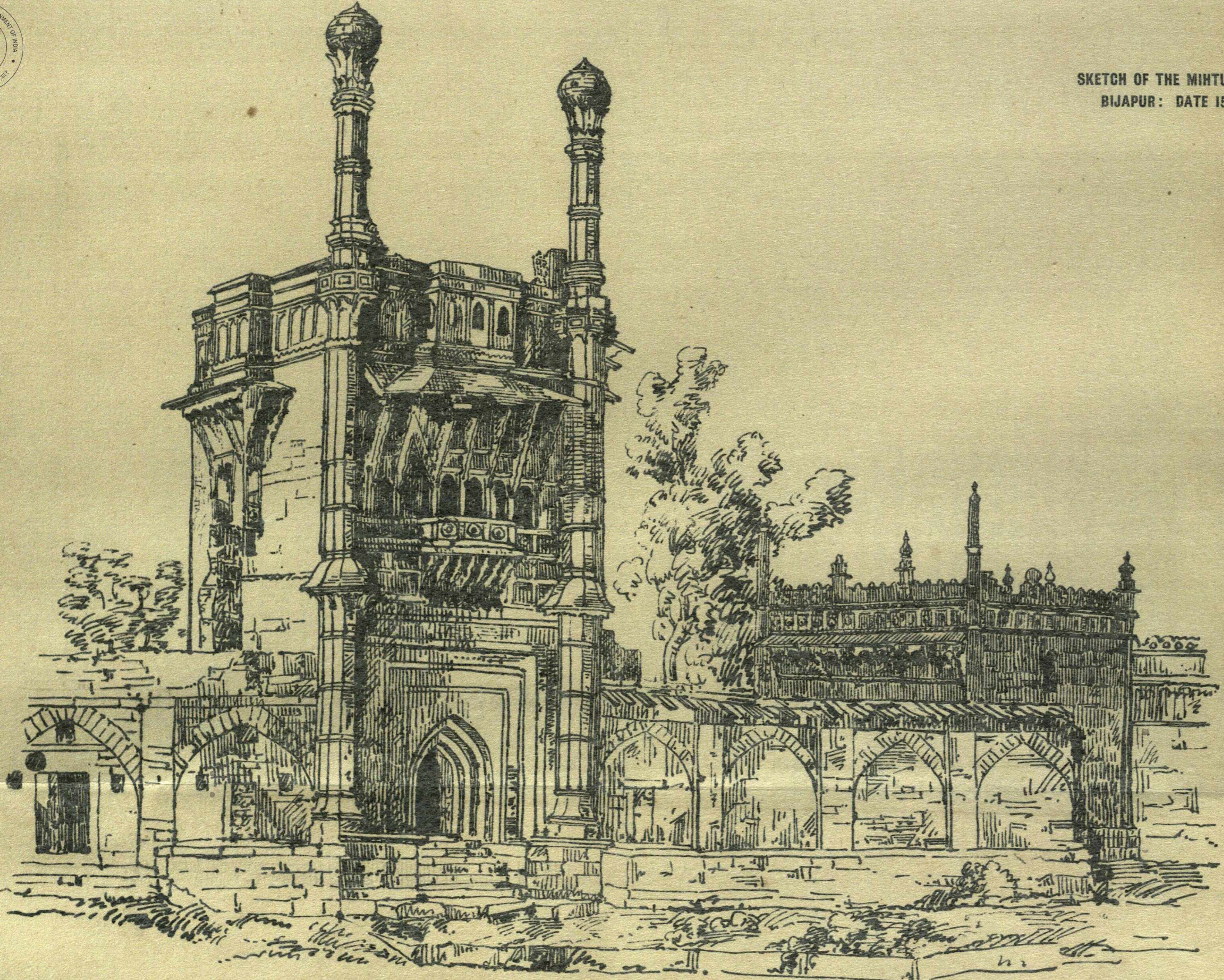
Instead of strengthening the corbels, as proposed by Mr. Joyner in his estimate No. 4 of 1880, with unsightly iron struts and bolts, the whole masonry should be *rebuilt*. This will naturally entail additional cost; but I most strongly recommend this course as being the only satisfactory one.

Inside the tomb and to the north is an unfinished apse-like addition intended as a resting-place for Mahmud's mother. Its roofless state is a source of damage in the rains, and *temporary covering would be of*

SKETCH OF THE JUMA MUSJID,
BIJAPUR:
1557-1580 A.D.



SKETCH OF THE MIHTURI MAHAL,
BIJAPUR: DATE 1534 A.D.



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great advantage until more permanent measures can be afforded or matured.

Within the enclosure of Mahmud's tomb a number of natives have erected unsightly dwellings. *These should be removed, and the whole area cleared up.*

The adjoining mosque to the west is a building of interest which should be preserved. During the famine of 1876-77 part of the interior was enclosed for an irrigation office, and I learned, during my visit in March 1881, that it is proposed to convert it into a travellers' bungalow—*a proceeding which I consider vandalistic and disfiguring, and which I strongly advise may be counterordered. The mosque should be cleared of all the enclosing walls and left as originally built and designed.*

The tomb and mosque and nakarkhana should, when the repairs are finished, be handed over to the charge of the district officials, and proper and responsible native custodians placed in charge to keep the buildings in order. The walling round these buildings ought to be completed.

The Juma Masjid.

(Marked V on the plan.)

Juma Masjid.

6. This fine mosque was built by Ali Adil Shah between A.D. 1557 and 1580 (see sketch).

The illustrations in Taylor and Fergusson's Bijapur are ground plan (wood-cut), two photographic views, and eleven photographs of drawings. The building was put in repair when the British annexed Sattara. Other repairs latterly found necessary have been carried out, *but the structure wants careful watching to prevent damage by vegetation, or by rain leaking through the domes and roofs.*

The interior is decorated with bands of beautiful tile-work round the arches of the domes, and has a noble "mehrab," which was decorated in coloured and gilt frescoe arabesque of the most gorgeous character by Mahmud Adil Shah. *Every means should be taken to preserve this splendid decoration by careful cleaning away dirt and dust and by varnishing. There are some good antique prayer carpets (durris) left in the mosque, which should be carefully kept and the patterns copied for use.*

Mihturi Mahal.

(Marked R on the plan.)

Mihturi Mahal.

7. The legend ascribing the building of this gateway and mosque to a "sweeper"

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or "mihtur" of Ibrahim Adil Shah I's reign is not confirmed by local tradition. I was told by a native, whose family has been long located at Bijapur, that the term "mihtur," as applied to the building, signifies "prince" —not "sweeper." The Chiefs of Chitral are still entitled "mihtur"; and it seems much more probable that this beautiful building, a place of Muhammadan worship, was dedicated to a prince rather than to a man of low caste.

The illustrations in Taylor and Fergusson's Bijapur consist of a plan (wood-cut) of the gateway, a photograph showing the gateway and mosque, and ten photographs of drawings and details of the gateway by Captain Hart, Mr. Cumming, and the two native assistants. The masonry of both mosque and gateway is exceedingly well executed, and the skilful use of concrete blocks in the construction of the floors is an admirable example of how that material is capable of being employed.

The ornamental details in the gateway are exquisitely wrought in stone, and afford the most perfect examples of the stone-cutter's art, whilst the wooden doorways are finely carved in bold design.

The building, in all respects a little gem, is under 30 feet square in plan, has three storeys, and the flanking minarets are a little over 65 feet in height (see sketch).

The perforated stone railing or balustrade round the top of the gateway is much damaged, and should be renewed. The brackets and chujjas of the projecting windows are broken, and require restoration. The repair and preservation of both mosque and gateway should be skilfully and thoroughly carried out, and the two buildings given over to be jealously guarded and cared for by responsible custodians.

The Citadel.

The Citadel or Arkilla.

8. Close to the entrance to the citadel or "arkilla" there are a quantity of Hindu columns which belonged to a temple, and have been recently unearthed. Near these is a mosque converted out of Hindu pillars and other materials of a Hindu temple, and in the enclosure of the mosque is a rude mound, beneath which are the bodies of the Muhammadans who were killed in capturing Bijapur under Mullick Karim-ud-din A.D. 1312. Some of the columns in the colonnade of the mosque are of a blackstone, and remarkable for their singular design and elaborate sculpture. *These Hindu remains should be*

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preserved and not utilised. Proceeding further into the citadel the Mecca Masjid is reached—built in Yusuf Ali Shah's time,—a small square building surrounded by a colonnade. The masonry work of the central building is beautifully cut and laid, and the "mehrab" of the mosque very handsomely carved in stone. *This building should be kept in repair.*

The other buildings in the citadel are mostly in a ruinous condition. They were largely constructed of wood, the removal of which by the Mahrattas caused the collapse of so many walls and floors. An exception to these is—

The Ashar Mahal.

(No. 12 in plan.)

Ashar Mahal.

This is a very singular building, with large wooden columns supporting the front verandah.

In Taylor and Fergusson's Bijapur it is illustrated by a ground plan (wood-cut), one photographic view, and six photographed plates of drawings, sections, details, etc.

Owing to its use as a sacred edifice for relics of the Prophet Muhammad* it escaped destruction by the Mahrattas, and gives a good idea of the character of the palaces that were ruined elsewhere in the citadel and robbed of all their wood-work. The palace measures in plan 135 feet by 100 feet, and has two storeys, in front of which is the verandah with huge columns of wood over 33 feet high. The principal apartments are in the upper storey : they are decorated with coloured frescoes on the walls, with beautifully pierced wooden screens fitted to windows, and with doorways inlaid with ivory. *All of these are much neglected, and deserve a better fate. The frescoes could be cleaned and protected by a hard varnish, and the ornamental wood-work of pierced and inlaid work should be skilfully repaired and carefully oiled.* In one apartment are kept some carpets and hangings for state purposes. The workmanship, colouring, and pattern of some of these are first rate and in true Oriental style, but they are badly cared for and full of dust. If they are to be preserved, *it is absolutely necessary that they be repaired and backed with strong cloth or canvass to prevent them falling to pieces, and hung against walls where they can be seen. The patterns of these carpets should be copied for the use of carpet weavers in India.*

* Two hairs of the Prophet's beard are preserved in a golden casket set with pearls.

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The remnants of the Adil Shahi library were preserved in the Ashar Mahal, but some years ago were removed by Sir Bartle Frere.

Considerable repairs are required to this building, which now has a desolate and neglected appearance. Some masonry arches were built up by Captain Hart to support and strengthen the roof of the verandah, but these are very unsightly, and a more skilful means of repairing the weakened roof could be employed by renewing timber beams.

Anand Mahal.

The *Anand Mahal,* or Palace of Delight, has some fine concrete floors, and was originally decorated with handsome coloured tile-work. It is proposed to convert this building into the Executive Engineer's residence. The *gateway* leading to the *Anand Mahal* has some splendid interior plaster-work *worthy of preservation* and illustration, and should *not be occupied.*

The *Tomb of Yusuf Turk,* built by Ishmail Adil Shah (see the sketch) *should also be preserved and not occupied.*

Gagan Mahal.

Arash Mahal.

Adalat-ka-Mahal.

Chini Mahal.

The *Gagan Mahal* is very ruined, but has a grand archway. *Further ruin should be stayed, and the place cleared of debris.* The *Arash Mahal* is intended for the residence of the Civil Surgeon; the *Adalat ka-Mahal* as the residence of the Collector and Magistrate; and the so-called *Chini Mahal* or Granary as the offices for the district.

Alamgir Padshah's Mosque.
Pani Mahal, Soneri Mahal.
Sath Khundi Mahal or Manzali.
Chinch-Didi Masjid.

Besides these are the *Alamgir Padshah's Mosque,* the *Pani Mahal,* the *Soneri Mahal,* the conspicuous *Sath Khundi Mahal,* built by Mahmud Adil Shah, and the *Chinch-Didi Masjid, all of which should be cleared of debris and decay arrested, as far as possible, by the extraction of roots and creepers, and by filling in cracks in masonry with cement, so as to mitigate the damage which heavy rain is liable to cause. Debris should be collected in convenient heaps and creepers planted so as to trail over them.*

The Great Gun Malik-i-Maidan.—(A.D. 1548.)

9. This highly finished gigantic howitzer is of mixed metal ($\frac{4}{5}$ths copper, $\frac{1}{5}$th tin), and lies on the outer walls of the city. Its extreme length is 14′ 3″, and its greatest diameter at the muzzle 5′ 2″ (see sketch).

It was at one time proposed to remove this fine specimen of ancient casting to England, but fortunately the bad roads

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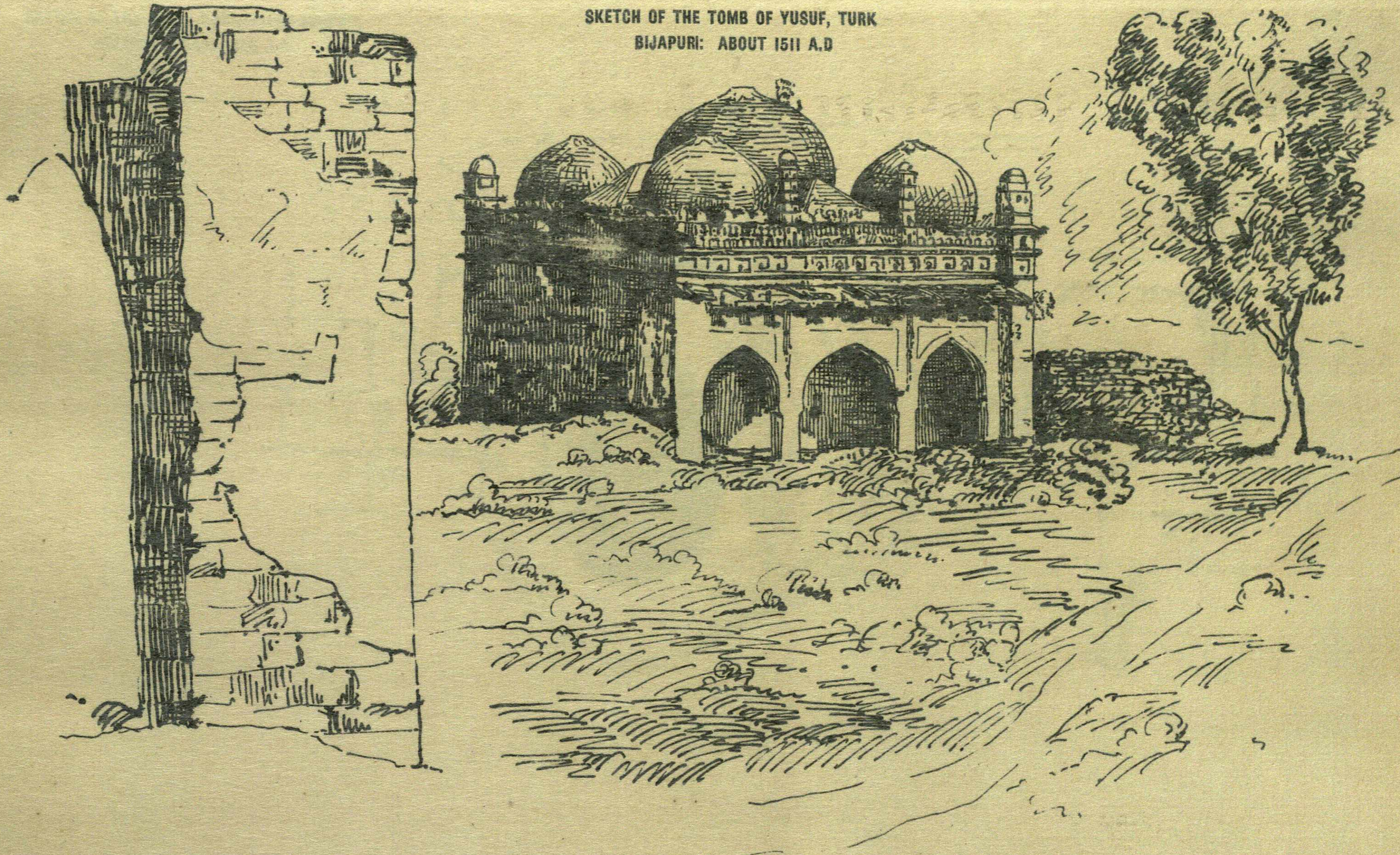
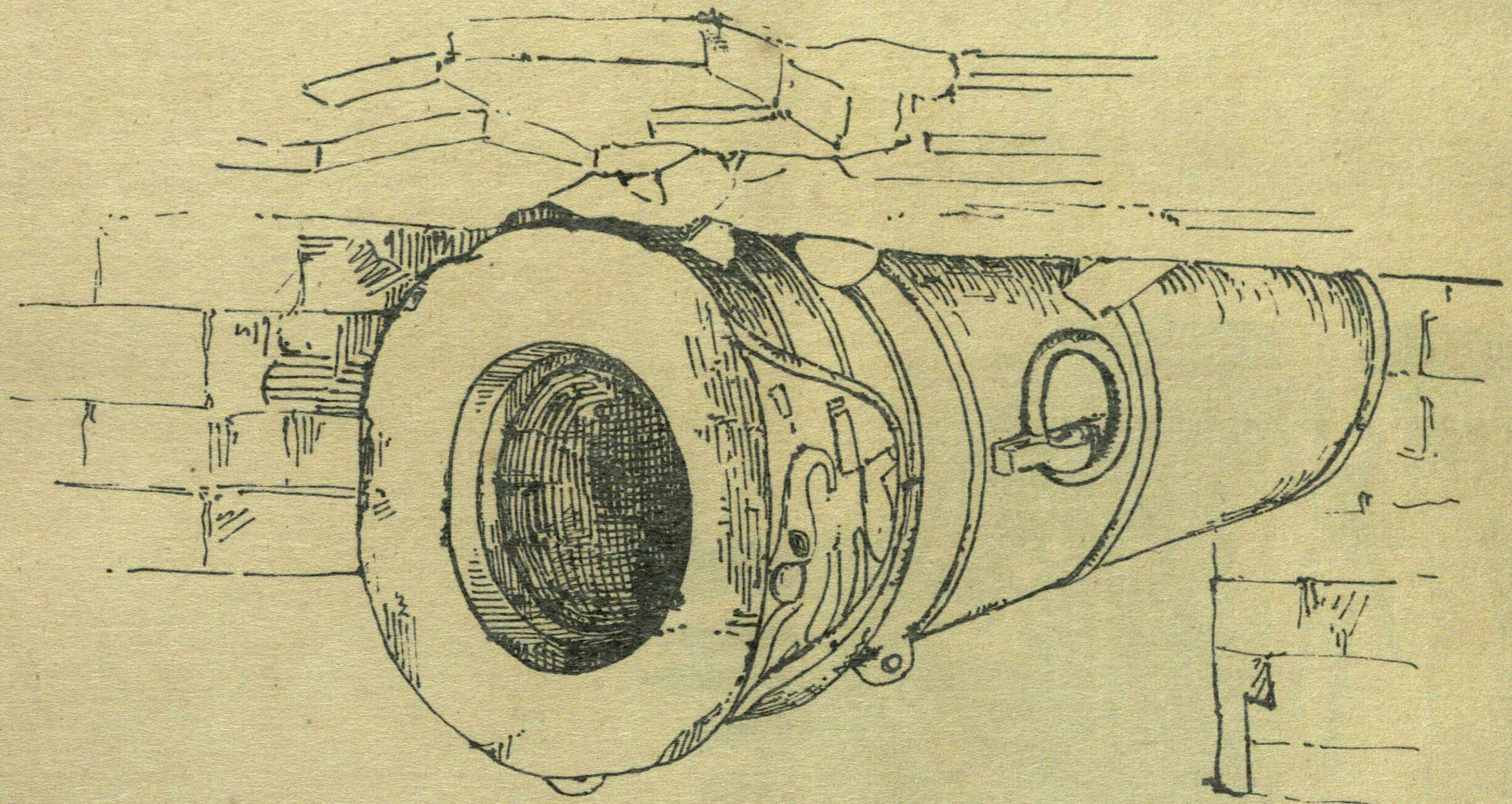
SKETCH OF THE TOMB OF YUSUF, TURK
BIJAPURI: ABOUT 1511 A.D



SKETCH OF THE GREAT GUN MALIK-I-MAIDAN,
BIJAPUR: DATE 1668 A.D.



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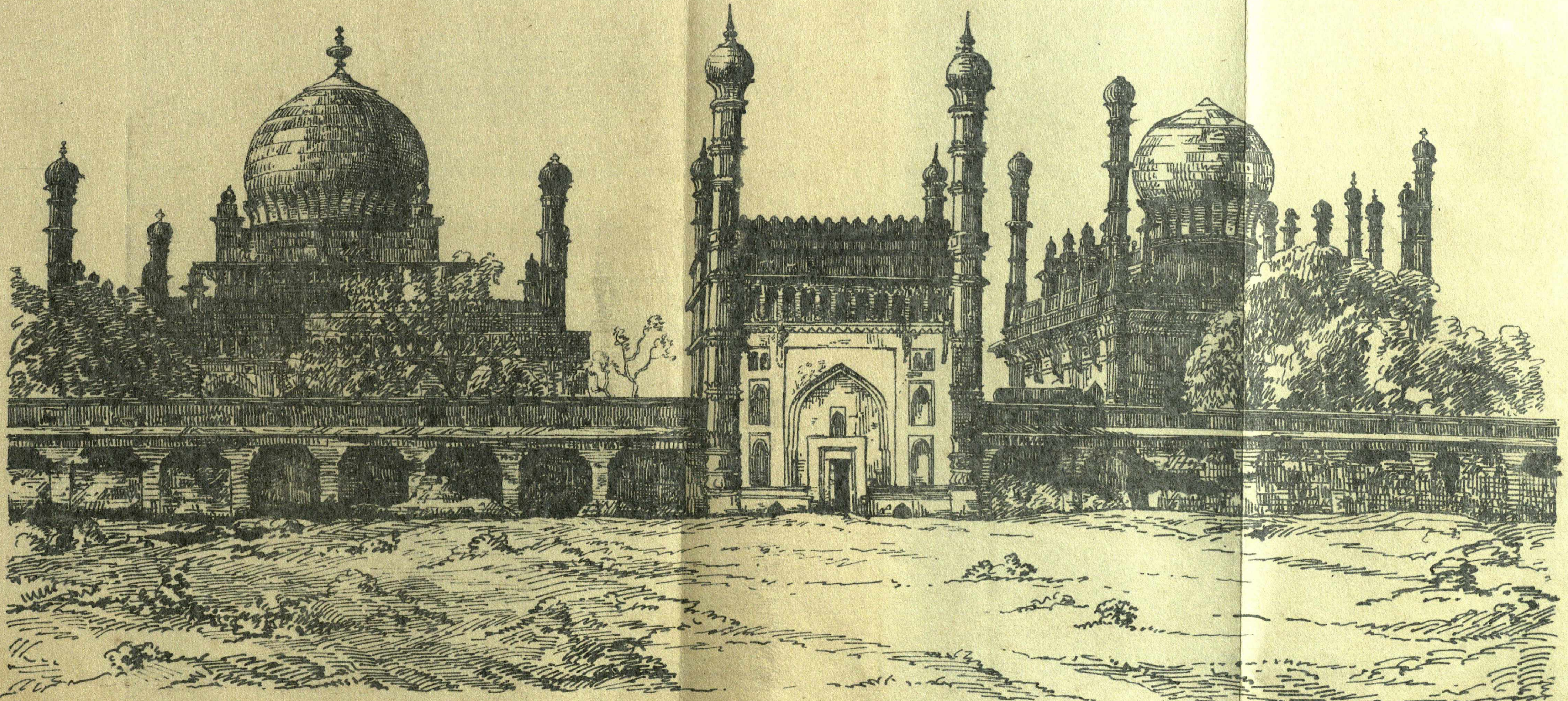
SKETCH OF THE TOMB AND MOSQUE OF IBRAHIM
ADIL SHAH II. CALLED THE IBRAHIM ROZA:
DATE 1579—1626 A.D.



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put a stop to any such measure. *I recommend that the gun be properly mounted on the bastion where it now rests.*

Taj Baori.

THE TAJ BAORI.—(A.D. 1660—1626.)

10. This is a fine tank of water, measuring 223 feet by 219 feet, marked J on the plan, and has a façade facing the street, with an archway of 35 feet span flanked by minarets over 60 feet high. Two wood-cuts—elevation and plan, together with one photographic view, and two photographs of drawings—are in Taylor and Fergusson's book on Bijapur.

The façade of the building was never completed, and *it will much improve the general appearance to finish it.*

Ibrahim Roza.

THE IBRAHIM ROZA.—(A.D. 1579—1626.)

11. This is about half a mile from the walls of Bijapur and to the south-east. The Roza or garden is an enclosure, in which are the tomb of Ibrahim Adil Shah II and his family and the adjacent mosque. An inscription records that the buildings took over 36 years to complete; that 6,533 workmen were employed on them; and that the cost amounted to a sum equivalent to more than half a million pounds sterling.

Both the tomb and mosque are very perfectly executed and finished, and the best preserved of all the Bijapur monuments. They are illustrated in Taylor and Fergusson's volume by a ground plan (wood-cut), by two photographs, and by ten photographs from drawings made by Captain Hart, Mr. A. Cumming, and two native draftsmen. The photographs are, however, much faded, and the drawings do not appear either distinctly or to advantage.

The tomb of Ibrahim is remarkable for the manner in which the interior, 40 feet square, is flat roofed in concrete faced with stone; also for the very rich ornament which has been lavished on various parts of the edifice.

There are six tombs in the interior, which is a perfectly plain apartment with no ornament save what appears in the elaborate stone trellis-work and tracery of the windows. The geometric devices interwoven with Arabic inscriptions produce a very remarkably rich lattice; but it is in parts much broken, *and should, if possible, be renewed.*

The outer walls of the four entrances are richly ornamented, and the wooden doors with carvings and gilt metal knobs present a bold and handsome appearance.

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The central apartment is surrounded with a double verandah; the inner verandah has most rich and minute carvings on its columns and ceilings. The exterior surfaces of the main walls were once covered with elaborately painted and gilt arabesques now much faded.

A skilful renewal of this surface decoration would greatly enhance the beauty of the tomb; but it must be done by an expert.

The ceilings of the verandahs want making secure, and one of the arches of the outer row of columns is cracked, and should be strengthened. Whitewash on pillars should be removed by application of strong soda and water and scrubbing off with hard bamboo brushes and palette knives. *All carved wood-work in doors and windows requires preserving by cleaning and oiling. The outside chujjas and brackets want renewal and repair.*

The mosque has a fine colonnade, arched and domed over with great skill and tasteful ingenuity. The whole of the interior and much of the exterior has been whitewashed. The interior walls and arches have been lined and picked out with grey! whilst underneath lies a profusion of coloured decorations. *The building is in need of some exterior repair to chujjas, brackets, roof, cornices, &c.*

The garden requires putting in order, and the vaulted chambers of the four walls which enclose it, and those in the lower part of the terrace which support the mosque and tomb, should be cleaned out. The whole place must be in proper custody to prevent damage and pollution (see sketch).

Project for converting Bijapur into the Head Quarters Station of the Kaladgi District.

12. During my visit in March last, I had the advantage of meeting Mr. Reinhold, Executive Engineer of Kaladgi, who lives at Bijapur, and he accompanied me over the several buildings in the citadel which it is proposed to convert into offices and residences for the district officials. Bijapur Project.

The question of making Bijapur the head-quarters of the district was raised in 1875 by Colonel (now Lieutenant-General) H. St. Clair Wilkins, R.E., then Superintending Engineer. Writing to the Bombay Government on the 31st December 1875 from Bijapur, he calls attention to the approaching visit of the Governor, and requests that his letter may be laid before

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him;—points out that Bijapur is centrally situated in the Kaladgi District;—has many advantages over the station of Kaladgi, which he describes as an obscure village. Kaladgi in former days a station of that southern portion of the district which belonged to the Madras Presidency, and when Bijapur pertained to the independent State of Sattara. Kaladgi described as miserably provided with public and private buildings;—as being very inaccessible;—of no political importance;—climate very hot;—visited every few years by cholera;—has no cold season;—as being depressing to Europeans,—with a bad water-supply.

On the other hand, he describes Bijapur as admirably adapted for a head-quarters station;—points out that by its adoption money might be saved, since the expenditure necessary at Kaladgi would produce larger results at Bijapur. Bijapur once inhabited by a million people. The fort, over six miles in circumference, is filled with buildings of all kinds which are convertible. The climate of Bijapur is salubrious;—it enjoys westerly sea breezes in the hot weather;—is not subject to cholera. Its inhabitants speak well of the climate. The water-supply good. He also points out that the resuscitation of Bijapur as capital of the district would be an act of political wisdom;—that ample accommodation exists for police and troops;—that if Bijapur is made the capital, the most valuable of the public buildings and monuments would have a chance of permanent preservation.

Colonel St. Clair Wilkins, again addressing the Bombay Government on 23rd February 1876, enters into the details of the scheme, and points out that the civil officers of the district hold it to be for the public benefit.—Bijapur free from cholera since 1872.—Is situated on the elevated watershed between the Bhima and Krishna rivers.—Kaladgi in a depressed basin.—Population of Kaladgi 6,591.—Population of Bijapur 12,935.—Estimated cost of completing buildings necessary to Kaladgi Rs. 1,04,000.—Estimated cost to convert buildings at Bijapur Rs. 97,000.—Suggests that Mr. Molecy, C.E., take up his head-quarters at Bijapur and carry out the alterations.

13. Mr. G. T. Molecy, F.R.I.B.A., C.E., was accordingly appointed Executive Engineer of the Kaladgi District, and submitted a series of estimates and plans for converting the following buildings at Bijapur:—

(1) Granary or Chini Mahal into offices for the Collector and Judge.

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(2) The Serai into a jail.

(3) The Idgah into Police lines.

(4) Yusuf Adil Shah's Masjid, &c., into Executive Engineer's office.

(5) The Adalat Mahal into a residence for the Collector.

(6) The Dowlia Ykut Mahal into a residence for the 1st Assistant Collector.

(7) The so-called Chini Mahal into a residence for the Superintendent of Police.

(8) The Anand Mahal into a residence for the Executive Engineer.

(9) The Arash Mahal into a residence for the Civil Surgeon.

The last of these estimates is dated 13th September 1876.

Orders by the Bombay Government.

14. The Bombay Government issued an order, No. 1862 of 1876, on the 4th November 1876, sanctioning the Bijapur project, but want of funds prevented any allotment being made. The matter was, however, ordered not to be lost sight of.

15. Mr. Molecy's plans and estimates were forwarded to me by the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Bombay, on the 7th April 1881 for my opinion and report on the proposed modification of the several buildings at Bijapur.

I have gone carefully over these plans and estimates, and now beg to submit my views.

Conversion of the Granary into offices.

16. Mr. Molecy's estimate, No. 8 of 1876-77, for the conversion of the *Granary* into district offices, Rs. 20,000.

There is, I think, no objection. This building known as the *Granary* or *Chini Mahal* was erected by Ibraham, grandson of Yusuf, founder of the Adil Shahi Dynasty, A.D. 1524—48. It is in the citadel or arkilla (No. 7 on the plan), and has a ground and upper floor, and measures 278 feet in length, and forms one end of a quadrangle 365 feet × 216 feet.

Arcaded recesses extend all round the quadrangle.

The greater part of the building is taken up by a large domed hall 128 × 29 feet 10 inches, and rises to the full height of the building. The wings project on either flank, and were connected by a huge verandah, supported at one time by two wooden columns. Only the masonry bases of these now remain, and all the wood-work have been removed by the Mahrattas.

Some grain, pieces of sulphur, broken glass, and China porcelain were found in the debris and in the staircases, which were bricked up in the thickness of the massive walls. These and other discoveries—such as the gun found by Mr. Joyner—should be carefully preserved.

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Coloured tiles were formerly used to decorate parts of the building. The west wing is assigned to the judicial branch, and the east wing to the revenue branch.

The body of the building is given over to various offices and to an entrance. Record-rooms, cells, &c., are placed in the quadrangle.

Part of the Granary appears in photograph III, Taylor and Fergusson's book.

The great hall should not be disfigured by high partitions, and should be kept free from end to end. Screens would sufficiently divide up the space for offices. The great verandah should be rebuilt.

There is nothing to show in the plans what the new portions will be like in elevation, or what description of doors and windows will be provided. The style of Bijapur architecture should be adhered to throughout, and this may be done even in the most simple way.

The verandah in front of the cells and Judge's room is not in keeping: the arcading of the original building should be repeated.

Conversion of the Serai into a Jail.

17. Mr. Molecy's estimate, No. 85 of 1876-77, for converting the serai into a jail, Rs. 20,000.

There is, I think, no objection to this, but there are only general ground plans with the estimate, and, excepting some elevations of a new workshed and warder's quarters, there is nothing to show what the buildings will be like.

The serai is 1½ miles north-west of Bijapur, and is not illustrated in Taylor and Fergusson's book.

It would be in better keeping, and probably economical, to use nothing but masonry arching instead of timber and tile roofs.

Conversion of the Idgah into Police lines.

18. Mr. Molecy's estimate, No. 94 of 1876-77, for converting the Idgah into Police lines, Rs. 24,040.

The Idgah is shown on the plan. It was erected by Aurangzib in A.D. 1690. Almost the whole of the buildings proposed are new, and only the enclosing wall is to be utilised in the erection of the men's quarters. It would seem, therefore, better to leave the Idgah for the use of Muhammadans, and *build the lines on some unoccupied ground.*

Conversion of the mosque of Adil Shah, &c., into the Executive Engineer's office.

19. Mr. Molecy's estimate, No. 75 of 1876-77, for converting the existing dilapidated buildings situated within 10 yards to the south of the Anand Mahal into Executive Engineer's office, Rs. 3,000.

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These buildings are described as the mosque of Yusuf Adil Shah, &c., but no plan accompanied the estimate, although one is referred to.

20. Mr. Molecy's plans for converting the Adalat Mahal into a residence for the Collector. Rough estimate, Rs. 15,000.

This building is of Ali Adil Shah II, and dates A.D. 1652. Its position is shown in the plan No. 4. All the woodwork has been removed.

There should be no pitched tiled roofing, but terrace roofing throughout. There is nothing in the design to show the character of the door and window openings.

Conversion of the Dowlia Ykut Mahal into the Assistant Collector's residence.

21. Mr. Molecy's plans for converting the Dowlia Ykut Mahal into a residence for the 1st Assistant Collector. Rough estimate, Rs. 8,500.

I think there is no objection to this; the building is not shown on the plan in Taylor and Fergusson's book.

The Dowlia Ykut *mosque* and *gateway* are shown at T on the plan and in photographs XLV and XLVI in Taylor and Fergusson's book. I presume it is not intended to touch these in any way.

The plan for converting the Dowlia Ykut *Mahal* seems to me suitable.

Conversion of the Chini Mahal into a Police Superintendent's residence.

22. Mr. Molecy's estimate, No. 84 of 1876-77, for converting the Chini Mahal outside and to the south of the arkilla as a residence for the Superintendent of Police, Rs. 8,599.

This building is not shown on the plan in Taylor and Fergusson's book. I think there is no objection to its use.

There are no elevations of the house with the estimate to judge from.

Conversion of the Anand Mahal into a residence for the Executive Engineer.

23. Mr. Molecy's estimate, No. 74 of 1876-77, for converting the Anand Mahal into a residence for the Executive Engineer, Rs. 4,000.

I think there is no objection to this building being used. The Anand Mahal was built in A.D. 1581 in the citadel (see No. 3 on the plan).

The plans do not show what the proposed alterations will be in appearance.

Conversion of the Arash Mahal into the residence for the Surgeon.

24. Mr. Molecy's plan for adapting the Arash Mahal as a residence for the Civil Surgeon. Rough estimate, Rs. 10,000.

I think there is no objection to this. The building is 50 yards to the east of the Adalat Mahal (No. 4) in the citadel.

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The plans do not indicate what appearance the building will have when altered.

25. *I venture to suggest that the preliminary work for converting the various buildings mentioned be commenced without delay.* If the plans before me had been of sufficient detail, I would have made a design of how I think any one of the buildings should be treated; but if the Executive Engineer, Bijapur, will send me elevations and details of how the buildings would look after the alterations as proposed are carried out, I will, if necessary, make any suggestions for keeping the architecture in harmony with that of Bijapur, and furnish drawings for the purpose. This report is preliminary only, as more buildings than those mentioned remain to be inspected and reported on. For this purpose, and to obtain further illustrations of Bijapur architecture and art, I hope before long to repeat my visit.

H. H. COLE, *Captain, R.E.*,
Curator of Ancient Monuments in India.

Govt. Central Branch Press, Simla.—No. 179 H., R. & A. D.—17-6-81.—150.